

OREGON SYSTEM MOST PERFECT IN UNITED STATES

Recall Is Just, and People Can Be Trusted to Render Fair Judgment, Says Expert Geo. Judson King.

"That Oregon's initiative, referendum and recall system is the most perfect one adopted in this country and is the admiration of all friends of popular government," is the statement of George Judson King of Toledo, Ohio, field lecturer for the National Referendum league, who has been in Portland several days investigating recent developments of the Oregon plan. Mr. King left last night for California to assist in the passage of the referendum and recall amendment to be voted on in that state at a special election October 10.

Mr. King has been studying the operation of the referendum in South Dakota and Montana. He says the amendments in those states are defective and but little progress has been made with them.

Montana Method Expressive. "In Montana, for instance," said Mr. King, "it requires from 5 to 8 per cent of the voters in five of the counties of the state to initiate a measure. This is expensive and because of it the direct election of senators measure has failed to pass."

"I couldn't get by Oregon on my way to California. I'm surprised to find the air here still holds oxygen, the ground produces crops, the people seem to be a good sort, with no anarchy prevailing, because F. V. Holman in Chicago, recently, painted a most direful picture of your sad plight. I thought perhaps the people would vote the state into the Pacific ocean before I could get out here. I find, what I had suspected to be the case—that is that political has been, corporation lawyers and sundry other gentlemen separated from the public crib are the only ones alarmed about the initiative and referendum in Oregon. I find your people are probably the most intelligent and wide awake on political questions in any state I have visited in the past year. The people of Oregon are 'next'; you're learning the lost art of self government."

Points Out Joker. Referring to the matter of the proposed amendment to the initiative law requiring a majority of all votes cast at the last election to amend the constitution of a state or to initiate a measure he said: "Actual experience has proved this to be the worst joker that can be put in an

initiative and referendum amendment. In 12 states no amendment to the constitution can be adopted without a majority of all votes cast and as Professor Dodd, in his excellent work, 'The Revision and Amendment of State Constitutions,' states, it is practically impossible for these states to amend their constitutions because the ignorant and careless voters are, in effect, counted against every proposition put to a vote and so ignorance, and not intelligence, rules the state.

"When in Oklahoma I found business men and citizens generally disgusted with this provision in their constitution and they all tell me it has made the initiative a dead letter and killed its influence. It is a device of machine politicians and should be voted down."

Oregon's Fame in East. "How is Oregon regarded in the east?" Mr. King was asked.

"It is very interesting," he replied. "I have been in 10 of 15 states since I was last here in November and Oregon has become synonymous for the initiative and referendum. Everywhere you are praised by the common people and by every citizen who wants to see direct government prevail everywhere you are denounced by the sort of men who elected Lorimer to the senate. But as the ratio stands about 10 to 1, the reputation of Oregon is reasonably safe and will go on increasing."

The progress of our movement? Well, the rapid spread of the Oregon plan may be indicated by the fact that in the legislatures of 1911 amendments were introduced in 18 and carried in eight, the others being defeated by very close margins in most cases. It is the women and the courage of its citizens, unhampered by foolish traditions and ancestor worship that we must look for the salvation of the American republic. Men here are unafraid. They depend upon themselves, and do their own thinking to a greater extent than in the east."

Taft and Arizona. Speaking of Taft and the Arizona constitution, Mr. King said: "Should Arizona fail to secure statehood, it would be a misfortune for Arizona, but a blessing for the rest of the country, because it would center the attention of the whole nation upon judicial reform. I have great respect and confidence in a large percentage of the judges of our country, but big business has captured most of the strategic courts. Many judges are two or three generations behind the times and their time and say: 'You shall not have what you desire, but what we choose to give you.'"

CABINET MEMBERS URGE LABOR HEADS TO STOP RIOTING (Continued from Page One.)

afternoon on the strikes throughout Great Britain. He said the situation in London was improved but that conditions in Liverpool were unsatisfactory. He denied that troops had fired a volley into the strikers, declaring the only basis for the report was that scattering police and soldiers had fired from the house tops over the heads of the strikers to frighten them.

The executive committee of the Amalgamated Association of Railway Employees is considering a general strike. Ramsey McDonald, a labor leader in parliament, declared today of the strikers: "The present deplorable unrest is the result of years of injustice in the courts and workshops of the nation. It is but another evidence that the oppressor at last is turning against the oppressors."

Liverpool, Aug. 15.—Bullets and bayonets were used by the troops here early today in dispersing a mob of riotous strikers. The situation is hourly growing more serious.

The whole of the lower section of the city today was terrorized by fighting between the strikers and troops, which was almost continuous. After bayonet charges failed, the troops were ordered to fire on different occasions, but their volleys were directed over the heads of the strikers. They cleared the streets temporarily, however.

During the charge of the troops it was discovered that the office of the Shipowners' association had been set fire. The flames were soon beaten out when the soldiers drove the mob away from the vicinity. Six soldiers and two policemen so far have been seriously wounded in the constant affray.

In the Great Homer street section bakeries and provision shops have been looted by the mobs who are attacking them at every opportunity to get subsistence as they are suffering greatly from famine.

PADLOCK PURSES, CURB APPETITES, ALL FOR SUFFRAGE (Continued from Page One.)

been long and carefully planned and the concerted snap of the suffragist pocketbook will have a real and well defined effect upon that class of trade purveying to the wants of women. It means that during the coming week women of the suffragist persuasion have pledged themselves to do their own laundry work, abstain from the absorption of ice cream soda, walk instead of using cars, eat no candy, stay in the city during the week end, clean their own shoes and gloves, eschew theatres and moving pictures, avoid the manicurists, eat 20 cent meals and turn the money saved into the coffers of the cause, to be used in the many energetic campaigns on schedule for the coming season.

Every Campaign Plan Considered. American suffragettes have long been in search of methods and means with which to push their campaign for equal rights. They have considered every campaign, known to the disciples of equal suffrage throughout the world, from the battle ax methods of England to the double remonstrance of Japan, and have come to the conclusion that each and every one is unsuited to the American field. It, therefore, behooved them to evolve something new, and here it is—a week of self-denial with the cash saved donated toward future campaigns. Said campaign to be conducted with the methodical precision of a great political fight.

In order to put the new idea into effect New York, because of its central location and the wealth of its suffragists, was chosen as the first city in which to try the new scheme. The enthusiasm with which the "denial" proclamation was received by the devotees of suffrage, at once insured its popularity. The city was split up into districts, leaders were appointed for the divisions made and each leader was

given authority to call meetings among her sister suffrage enthusiasts, to receive pledges and to distribute propaganda.

Success Was Evident. The success of this business-like way of doing things was at once evident. Thirty-five hundred names were enrolled, all of them accompanied by pledges covering abstention from all but the bare necessities of life during the sacred seven days. Estimations of the benefits to be derived from this abstinance run into the thousands.

In discussing the plan, its objects and advantages, Mrs. Margaret C. Aldrich, head of the New York suffragettes in the absence of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, chairman of the Woman Suffrage party, said:

"We are undertaking these seven days of self-denial for two reasons. The most obvious one is that we need a lot of money to push the cause not for buying votes but for legitimate campaign expenses, for educating the people to the importance of equal rights. The campaign for equal suffrage must be run on the same plan as that of any other great political campaign."

Money Always Necessary. "But even more important, in a way, than the amount of money to be collected is the second motive for the movement—the effort to inspire our women with the duty and the joy of self-sacrifice for the great work that they have undertaken."

"There must be a great many sterner sacrifice weeks and months and maybe years for our workers to endure before they win their fight. But at least they have the opportunity now to make a beginning and to show the world that the Woman Suffrage party does not consist of a few leaders, but is a great, big, devoted democracy."

"All the women who have heard of the self-denial week are thoroughly enthusiastic. Women who have almost no money of their own, mothers of large families on the east side, have told us that they will go without the occasional car ride and the penny sodas, which are their only solace in this torrid weather, in order to give the few cents saved to the cause."

"We will have a great many thousands of dollars in our treasury as a result of this self-denial and will have set an example to womankind that will be of incalculable benefit. How well off would be if every woman joined us in our work of self-denial."

STATEHOOD BILL VETOED BY TAFT; RECALL IS SCORED (Continued from Page One.)

erly, they must be independent. They must decide every question coming before them according to law and justice. "In the early days some argued that whatever a legislature did was constitutional. But it was soon settled that it was the duty of the judge to apply the law, declare what was law, and what purported to be statutory law was at variance with fundamental law—the constitution—the seeming law was no law at all, did not bind courts, individuals or any branch of the government, and it was the duty of the judges to so decide."

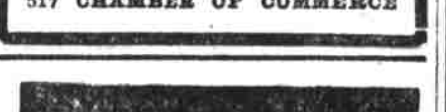
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independence is greater where the individual is one litigant and the state, guided by a successful, governing majority, is the other.

Courage Is Required. "In order to preserve the rights of the minority and the individual, and to preserve our constitutional balance, the judges must have the courage to decide against the majority when law and justice require."

"Could there be a system more ingeniously devised to subject judges to momentary gusts of popular passion than the Arizona system? Election controversies, labor troubles, racial and religious issues, issues regarding the construction and constitutionality of liquor laws, criminal trials of popular and unpopular defendants, removal of county seats, suits by individuals to maintain their constitutional rights in the obstruction of some popular improvement—those and other cases could be cited in which the majority of a district electorate might be tempted in hasty anger to recall a conscientious judge if the opportunity was open all the time with no period of delay intervening for the abatement of popular feeling."

Devised for Quick Action. "The recall is devised to encourage quick action, to lead people to strike while the iron is hot. Supporters of such a system seem to think it would work only in the interest of the poor, humble, weak and oppressed; that it would strike down only judges supposed to favor corporations who are affected by the corrupting influence of

the rich. Nothing is further from the ultimate result.

"The motive it would offer to unscrupulous combinations to seek control of politics and the control of judges is clear. Those having the best opportunity of rousing the majority of the people to action under sudden impulse would profit by the recall. Do they not include those having money enough to employ firebrands and alarmers in a community, stirrers-up of social hate?"

"Would not self-respecting men hesitate to accept judicial office with such a sword of Damocles hanging over them? What kind of judgments might those on an unpopular side expect from a court whose judges must make decisions under such legalized terrorism? The character of judges would deteriorate to that of trimmers and time-servers, and independent judicial action would be a thing of the past."

System Full of Danger. "As the possibilities of such a system pass under review, is it too much to characterize it as one destroying the judiciary, its standing and usefulness? It is said the recall would be used but rarely. If so, then why adopt a system so full of danger?"

"But it is a mistake to show that such a powerful lever for influencing judicial decisions, such an opportunity for vengeance because of adverse decisions, would be allowed to remain unused."

"But it is said that the people of Arizona are to become an independent

state when created, and that even if the judicial recall is struck out now they can reincorporate it in their constitution after they have attained statehood."

"To this my answer is that, dealing with courts which are the cornerstones of good government, in which not only voters but nonvoters and nonresidents have deep interest as the security of their rights to life, liberty and property, no matter what the future action of the state may be, it is necessary for the authority primarily responsible for its creation to assert in no doubtful terms the necessity for an independent and untrammelled judiciary."

TAFT'S VETO TERMED "HEIGHT OF FOLLY" BY WILLIAM J. BRYAN

Cincinnati, Aug. 15.—William J. Bryan made a scathing attack on President Taft's message vetoing the New Mexican and Arizona statehood bill because of the recall of judges provision in the Arizona constitution. Dubbing the veto as the "height of folly," Bryan said:

"The statehood bill provides that the people must vote on the recall measure at the first election and that is all the president has the right to ask. More-

over, Arizona can reinstate the provision as soon as statehood has been granted. The president is wasting his energy in making such a fuss over a section of the constitution which the people can add at any time."

"Nevertheless, the veto has served a useful purpose in that it shows that the president will apply the same doctrine of irresponsible government which he applied in the Philippines in this country if he is given the power. When he insists that a judge shall not be subject to recall by the people, no matter how long the term or how flagrant the abuse of power, he exposes his contempt for the rights of the people and his lack of faith in their intelligence and patriotism."

Special Days at the Centennial For Willamette Valley and Southern Oregon day, Thursday, August 17; California day and Commercial Travelers day, August 18, a special fare of \$1 each way has been made by the O-W. R. & N. tickets good on Steamer Foster, leaving at 8 a. m., or on the "Harvest Queen" or "Hansa" at 8 p. m. Full particulars, reservations, etc., call at City Ticket Office, Third and Washington streets.

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